

D2

Without further elaboration, it is believed that one skilled in the art can, using the preceding description, utilize the present invention to its fullest extent. The preceding preferred specific embodiments are, therefore, to be construed as merely illustrative, and not limiting of the remainder of the disclosure in any way whatsoever. The entire disclosure of all applications, patents and publications, cited above and in the figures are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety, including, U.S.S.N. 09/139,663 filed August 25, 1998; PCT/US97/18649, filed October 15, 1997; U.S. Pat. No. 5,817,458; and U.S. Pat. No. 5,714,390.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follow:

F 1

18. (Amended) A method of determining latent viral load in a host infected with HIV comprising,

depleting a cell population comprising intact cells susceptible to HIV-infection expressing cell-surface gp120, and
determining, in said depleted cell population, the number of intact cells expressing cell-surface gp120, wherein said depleted cell population has been contacted with an agent capable of activating HIV integrated into the genome of said cells under conditions effective for said agent to activate integrated HIV,
whereby said latent viral load is the determined number of cells.

D 3

19. (Amended) A method of determining latent viral load in a host infected with HIV comprising,

depleting a cell population comprising intact cells susceptible to HIV-infection expressing cell-surface gp120,
contacting said depleted cell population with an agent capable of activating HIV integrated into the genome of said cells under conditions effective for said agent to activate integrated HIV, and
determining, in said depleted cell population, the number of intact cells expressing cell-surface gp120,
whereby said latent viral load is the determined number of cells.

REMARKS

PRIORITY/DECLARATION

The serial number of the predecessor application has been corrected on Pages 1 and 18 of the specification. As far as the objection to the specification, the inventors are no longer at the company. Applicant is taking steps to locate them and execute a declaration should one be deemed necessary.

REJECTIONS UNDER SECTION 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claims 18 and 19 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. It is urged that these amendments overcome the rejections and place the application in condition for allowance. The amendments do not change the scope of the claim in any way or form, but simply clarify what was already claimed.